

## United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Viginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

10/535,240

Neil Joseph Atkin

56108/315567

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/GB03/04965

I.A. FILING DATE

PRIORITY DATE

11/17/2003

11/20/2002

30559 CHIEF PATENT COUNSEL SMITH & NEPHEW, INC. 1450 BROOKS ROAD MEMPHIS, TN 38116

**CONFIRMATION NO. 3755** 371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER \*OC000000018212946\*

Date Mailed: 03/14/2006

## NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

12/21/2005

12/21/2005

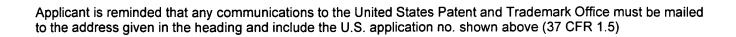
DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS

DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE "FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE. The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 05/17/2005
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 05/17/2005
- Copy of IPE Report filed on 05/17/2005
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 05/17/2005
- Oath or Declaration filed on 12/21/2005
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 05/17/2005
- Priority Documents filed on 05/17/2005



ANITA D JOHNSON

Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 226

PART 3 - OFFICE COPY

FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)